

Lesson: The Blue and Gold Experience

OVERVIEW

In this lesson students will explore the mission of the FFA and how it can play a role in their education. Students will explore all three areas of the mission statement to include: leadership, personal growth and career success.

OBJECTIVES

1. Students will understand and be able to explain the FFA motto.
2. Students will understand the FFA mission statement.
3. Students will understand how FFA develops premiere leadership in their members.
4. Students will understand the opportunities for personal growth in FFA.
5. Students will understand the traits needed to have career success and relate this to their FFA experience.

MATERIALS

2020 AFNR Handbook- 1 copy per student

Learning Page: What about the Classroom?- 1 copy per student

FFA Motto Cards – 1 set per group of 2 or 3 students

Leadership Quotes – 1 set for a class of 14 to 21 students

*print additional quotes for larger classes

Career Success Traits- print one set

Computer with internet access

Projector

Tape

Timer or access to a watch

1- Post-it note per student

TIME

2- 45 minute class periods

CONTENT & TEACHING STRATEGIES

Welcome to class today! We are excited to have you back to begin our FFA adventure. Today we will be continuing our journey of the three-circle model and focus on FFA. Let's get started.

Teacher Note- Print FFA Motto cards prior to class. Place students in groups of 2 or 3.

One representative from each group can come to the front to receive their set of cards. Cards are to be face down until I signal you to begin.

Each group retrieve a set of cards.

These cards contain the very important motto for FFA members. When I say “flip it” you may flip the cards over. Arrange the cards in the correct order of the FFA motto. Once our groups believe the cards in the correct order, raise your hand and I will come check if you are correct.

Questions? Flip it!

Students will put the FFA motto in the correct order as follows:

Learning to Do

Doing to Learn

Earning to Live

Living to Serve

Elicit student responses.

1. *What was challenging?*
2. *What does this motto means?*
3. *Why is it important to understand the motto?*

We want students to understand that the FFA motto explains how FFA provides authentic, hands-on learning experiences to gain skills for a future career while earning money and learning the importance of serving others and the community.

Now that we have learned the FFA motto let’s take a look at the first part of what our FFA experience will provide us.

In our AFNR handbook, open it up to page 2 and silently read the two paragraphs about the FFA. While reading, we will find the mission statement. Record the mission statement on our Learning Page.

Wait one minute for students to read and record their responses.

Ans: premiere leadership, personal growth and career success.

Let’s quickly review the three portions of the FFA mission statement. Let’s say the words out loud together. Premiere leadership, personal growth and career success.

Around the room, we will find six quotes posted. When I say go, staying in our groups, move to one of the quotes posted. One group per quote, no more. When we arrive at the quote, silently read the quote. When I say “switch”, rotate clockwise around the room to the next quote until we have visited all of the quotes. Questions? Go

Teacher facilitates Leadership Quote Gallery Walk. Play soft background music while students are rotating through the quotes. While students are rotating through the quotes place a Learning Page at each student’s seat.

Once students complete the last rotation return to their seat.

Thank you for doing a great job and following the directions. On our desks we will find a Learning Page. With your neighbor, quietly discuss themes, differences, and general observations we discovered in each quote. Then individually record those findings on our Learning Page.

Wait 2 minutes for discussion and writing.

Who will share what their group discussed?

Elicit at least one student response from each group.

Thank you for sharing. What can we say was the general subject of these quotes?

Elicit the response “leadership”.

How do these quotes reflect the principles of leadership?

Elicit student responses. Possible responses include but are not limited to: character, integrity, everyone can be a leader, leaders encourage and challenge others to be better and do better, etc.

Why do we believe it is important for us to possess leadership qualities?

Elicit student responses. Possible responses include but are not limited to: being individuals, leadership is necessary in daily lives, continue to grow personally and professionally, etc.

Our FFA experience will be rooted in developing our premier leadership.

On your Learning Page capture what you believe leadership is by drawing a picture demonstrating leadership within our lives.

Wait 3 to 4 minutes for students to complete drawing.

Let’s focus our attention on the next part of the mission statement. Personal growth.

We will watch short clip of a video. While we are watching the video, be thinking about how this relates to personal growth.

Teacher Note- Show students this video: <https://youtu.be/Xm3HU5f3vzQ> (5:05)

Let’s discuss this video clip.

1. *Who demonstrated leadership in this video? Ans: both the coach and Brock (player)*

2. *What was inspiring about the video clip?*
3. *How did the video show the growth of the Brock, the football player?*

Just as we saw personal growth in the video, FFA also provides opportunities for us to grow personally and as future leaders of the agriculture industry.

Teacher Note- Move students into 5 new groups.

Using our AFNR Handbook, let's take a look at some growth opportunities that we have as FFA members. On pages 10-11, our Nebraska FFA Association, provides multiple opportunities for members to attend conferences to continue growing as leaders. Each group will be assigned a conference to dive deeper into and then we will share out about the assigned conference to the class. We will record this information on our Learning Pages. Questions?

Teacher assign one of the following conferences to each group: Pathways to Careers, Fall Leadership Conference, COLT, 212/360 Conference, State Convention.

Wait 3 minutes for students to read and record a summary of the conference on their Learning Page.

Let's see what opportunities are available to us. As each group shares about their assigned conference, write a brief summary of each opportunity on our Learning Page. Who will share first?

Work through all 5 conferences and add in your own thoughts, experiences, or additional details as each group concludes their summary.

Now that we have learned about the different conferences, on our Learning Page circle at least two conferences that we would like to attend.

Elicit student(s) to share which conference they circled.

How will these opportunities help us grow personally?

Elicited student response should include but is not limited to each conference focuses on different topics and areas of our lives.

Why do we think it is important to continue growing and learning throughout our lives?

Elicited student response will vary.

Thanks to everyone for sharing! So far we have covered two of the three parts of the FFA mission. What is the last one we will cover?

Elicit responses: Career Success.

Correct, career success is the last portion of the FFA mission statement. On our Learning Page, capture a career that interests you.

Wait 20 seconds.

Who will share what career they wrote down?

Elicit student responses.

When we think about the words Career Success, what comes to mind?

Elicit student responses.

Teacher Note- Prior to the start of class print and cut apart Career Success Trait Cards for Taboo, Ag Ed Edition activity.

How many of us have heard of the game Taboo? Good, we are going to play a game of Taboo, Ag Ed Edition, in our current groups. When I say “go”, send one individual from our groups up to get two cards. These cards are not to be shared with the rest of the group. Go.

Volunteer secures 2 cards.

We will now have 1 minute to come up with a group name and have that name written on the whiteboard in the front of the room.

Students write each group name on the board to keep score during activity.

Listen carefully as I review the expectations of the game.

- 1. The individual who has the cards will be your team's representative holding the card.*
- 2. Only the individuals on the team may guess the word.*
- 3. When giving clues to your teammate we cannot use any of the word(s) that are on the card they are holding.*
- 4. Each team will have 1 minute to guess their word correctly before moving on to the next.*

Questions?

Teacher facilitates Taboo, Ag Ed Edition, keeping score on the board where team names were wrote and keeping time for each group.

Hold up your cards. Let's take a look at the words on all of our cards.

Have students hold up the cards to be read by others.

What do all of these traits have in common?

Elicit student responses. Response should include but are not limited to necessary to be prepared and successful in future careers.

Why is it important that we possess these traits?

Elicit student responses. Response should include but are not limited to necessary to be prepared and successful in future careers.

Let's think about FFA. Of the different items that we have learned about, how will FFA have an impact on preparing us for career success?

Elicit student responses. Students should refer back to items learned, such as leadership, personal growth, P2C conference, different conferences they can attend, SAE, etc.

On our Learning Page, record three traits that we want to focus on improving to prepare us for success in a future career as well as specific actions we can take to improve.

Pass out one Post-it note to each student while they are capturing the traits and action steps on their Learning Page.

REVIEW

Wow! What a journey we have been on learning about the FFA mission and the opportunities FFA provides to all of us. On the Post-it note in front of you, answer the following two question:

- 1. What is the FFA mission statement?*
- 2. What is one FFA conference you hope to be able to attend during your FFA career?*

Hand me your Post-it note as you leave today. Thank you and I look forward to reading your answers.

EXTENDED ACTIVITIES

- Have students fill out their plans for attending FFA conferences in the supplemental 4 year plan
- Have students complete a team building activity. Ex: scavenger hunt, human knot, etc.
- Have students develop a goal that they want to achieve during this school year.